

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled)

10. (New) A vessel wall comprising:

a laterally pressure-loaded reinforced rigid plastic panel;

said panel being delimited by stiffeners of said wall;

wherein said panel has a longer side and a shorter side, wherein said longer side is at least 1.5 times a length of said shorter side, and said rigid panel having a plurality of reinforcing laminated layers bonded together of substantially unidirectional substantially parallel fibers having a predominant orientation that form an angle with said sides of said panel;

said angle between said predominant orientation and the longer side of said panel being between about 55° to 75° so that approximately one-half of said reinforcing laminated layers of said panel form a positive angle between about 55° to 75°, and approximately one-half of said reinforcing layers forming a negative angle between about 55° to 75° with respect to said longer side of said panel, and wherein said panel is laterally loaded by fluid pressure.

11. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 10 wherein said positive angle is about positive 58° to 65° and said negative angle is about minus 58° to minus 65°.

12. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 10 wherein said positive angle is about positive 60° and said negative angle is about minus 60°.

BERGSTRÖM et al

13. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 10 wherein said reinforcing laminated layers comprise at least 60% of a thickness of said panel.

14. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 10 wherein a first layer of said reinforcing laminated layers comprises fibers having a positive orientation and a second layer of said reinforcing laminated layers comprises fibers having a negative orientation, wherein said first layer is stitched to said second layer.

15. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 14 wherein at least 70% of a thickness of said panel is formed by the reinforcing laminated layers stitched together.

16. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 10 wherein said fibers are E-glass fibers.

17. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 10 wherein said fibers of said panel comprise E-glass fibers.

18. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 11 wherein a first layer of said reinforcing laminated layers comprises fibers with a positive orientation and a second layer of said reinforcing laminated layers comprises fibers a negative orientation, where said first layer is stitched to said second layer.

19. (New) A panel as recited in claim 12 wherein a first layer of said reinforcing laminated layers comprises fibers with a positive orientation and a second layer of said reinforcing laminated layers comprises fibers a negative orientation, where said first layer is stitched to said second layer.

BERGSTRÖM et al

20. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 19 wherein at least 70% of a thickness of said panel is formed by said layers, wherein said layers are stitched together.

21. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 18 wherein at least 70% of a thickness of said panel, wherein said layers are stitched together.

22. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 11 wherein said fibers are E-glass fibers.

23. (New) A vessel wall as recited in claim 12 wherein said vessel is a boat or a ship.

24. (New) A vessel wall of a boat or ship comprising:

a laterally pressure-loaded reinforced rigid plastic panel;

said plate supported by stiffeners of a vessel having said wall;

wherein said panel has a longer side and a shorter side, wherein said longer side is at least 1.5 times a length of said shorter side, and said rigid panel having a plurality of reinforcing laminated layers bonded together of substantially unidirectional fibers, wherein said fibers in each layer have a predominant orientation forming an angle with said longer side of said panel of about 55° to 75°, and

approximately one-half of said reinforcing layers of said panel forming a positive angle between about 55° to 75°, and approximately one-half of said reinforcing layers forming a negative angle between about 55° to 75°, wherein said panel, when mounted in said vessel wall, is laterally loaded by fluid pressure.